

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims supersedes all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A pneumatic radial tire comprising:

a wheel tread part being divided into a plurality of blocks and including at least one circumferential groove formed in a circumferential direction and a plurality of traverse grooves formed at proper intervals in a width direction so as to intersect the circumferential groove,

wherein each of the plurality of blocks is provided with at least one sipe which intersects the circumferential direction,

wherein a cut depth of the sipe changes in the width direction,

wherein, [[on]] a block section along the sipe is divided into a shoulder side region and a center side region by a center line of the block section, a ratio between a sipe sectional area S2 of [[a]] the shoulder side region and a sipe sectional area S1 of [[a]] the center side region is as follows:

$$1.4 \leq S2/S1 \leq 2.0$$

so that block rigidity is higher in an end of the center side region compared with that in an end of the shoulder side region.

2. (Previously Presented) A pneumatic radial tire according to claim 1, wherein:
the circumferential groove is constituted by including a longitudinal main groove formed
in the circumferential direction via a center of the width direction, and a pair of longitudinal
subgrooves disposed by at least one on each of both sides of the longitudinal main groove, and

at least four rows of the plurality of blocks are disposed along the main and subgrooves.

3. (Previously Presented) A pneumatic radial tire according to claim 1 or 2, wherein:
a block section along the sipe is formed so that a cut depth of the end of the center side
region is shallower compared with that of the end of the shoulder side region.

4-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Presented) A pneumatic radial tire according to claim 1 or 2, wherein:
the sipe is constituted of a one-end-open sipe formed by opening the shoulder side of the
block and terminating the center side in the block.

7. (Previously Presented) A pneumatic radial tire according to claim 6, wherein:
a width of an unopened part of the end of the center side region is 5 to 15% of a block
width.

8. (Previously Presented) A pneumatic radial tire according to claim 1 or 2, wherein:
the sipe is constituted of a both-end-open sipe formed by opening both ends of the shoulder and center sides of the block.

9. (Previously Presented) A pneumatic radial tire according to claim 8, wherein:
an end of the center side region has a shallow cut depth, and a base of the center side region has a width of 5 to 40% of the block width.